

December 4, 2013

**Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.**

### **SBM Blog: Supreme Court Announces Appointments To Foreign Language Board Of Review**

"By order today, the Michigan Supreme Court has made appointments to the Foreign Language Board of Review established by its new Limited English Proficiency rules."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Michigan Supreme Court names nine-member panel to ensure court interpreters are qualified to assist non-English speakers**

**Foreign Language Board of Review to help implement new rule requiring all Michigan state courts to provide interpreters; consistent, meaningful access is goal**

[Press release](#)

### **The Allegan County News: Michigan Adoption Day in Otsego**

"An Otsego family officially gained a new member on the 11th Michigan Adoption Day, Tuesday, Nov. 26. Kevin and Kathy Sparks, who have been a foster family for three years, finalized the adoption of their daughter Faith Olivia Sparks.... Two other families joined the Sparks in finalizing their adoptions in a public hearing.... Judge Michael Buck presided over the hearing."

[Full story](#)

### **Petoskey News-Review: Happy family grows by 2 at Michigan Adoption Day**

"It's hard to imagine a court case where everybody leaves the courtroom beaming with joy, but that's exactly what happens at Judge Michael Cooper's Family Court every year on Michigan Adoption Day when an adoption takes place. The latest was held Tuesday, when two boys, Sawyer, 5, and Scout, 3, became the sixth and seventh members of the Rosin family."

[Full story](#)

### **The Detroit News: Novi judge's cases scrutinized**

"The Oakland County Prosecutor's Office wants Oakland County Circuit Court to order a Novi judge to explain why he is dismissing cases and deferring sentences when prosecutors aren't present. At issue is the conduct of veteran Novi 52-1 District Judge Brian W. MacKenzie, who has sat on the district bench since 1988."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Detroit Free Press: Prosecutor accuses Novi judge Brian MacKenzie of falsifying records, improperly dismissing cases**

[Full story](#)

### **The MLW Blog: Prosecutor files complaint, accuses Novi judge of mishandling cases**

[Full story](#)

### **The Oakland Press: Prosecutor's Office accuses Novi judge of illegally dismissing cases**

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Free Press: State House committee warned in testimony on anonymous political ads**

"Michigan lawmakers were warned Tuesday about the damage last-minute 'issue ads' paid for by anonymous donors can do to candidates of both political stripes.... Attorney Steven Galbraith, representing the Oakland County Bar Association and the negligence section of the State Bar of Michigan, raised the issue of the anonymously funded 'sleeping judge' TV ads that contributed to the defeat of Republican-nominated Michigan Supreme Court Justice Clifford Taylor in 2008."

[Full story](#)

### **MLive.com: 'Retroactivity trigger' would allow resentencing for Michigan juvenile lifers if Supreme Court weighs in**

"A Michigan House panel on Wednesday advanced legislation that could lead to resentencing hearings for so-called 'juvenile lifers' -- but only if the state or U.S. Supreme Court says they deserve the opportunity.... [A] substitute version [of Senate Bill 319] approved Wednesday by the Michigan House Criminal Justice includes a 'retroactivity trigger' that would kick in if the Michigan Supreme Court or U.S. Supreme Court determines the previous ruling should apply to existing inmates."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Detroit Legal News: Attorney general Schuette wants juvenile lifers to stay behind bars**

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.**

### **Grand Rapids Legal News: Judge orders state parole process for child offenders serving life**

[Full story](#)

### **Macomb County Legal News: Police photos at issue in new look at '87 case (second article)**

"The state Supreme Court is ordering a St. Clair County judge to take another look at the case of a man convicted of killing another man in a college parking lot decades ago. It's the latest attempt by Temujin Kensu to get his 1987 conviction and life sentence overturned. Kensu was formerly known as Fred Freeman."

[Full story](#)

### **Muskegon Chronicle: Muskegon County groundbreaking on Juvenile Transition Center an 'act of political courage'**

"Muskegon County Commissioners stuck a shovel in the dirt Tuesday, taking a step towards building a new juvenile center that their predecessors hesitated at for decades. 'What they have done is a tremendous act of political courage,' Muskegon County's Chief Probate Court Judge Neil Mullally said at a groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday, Dec. 3."

[Full story](#)

### **SBM Blog: Sour Aftertaste: No Judicial Immunity In Mike's Hard Lemonade Child Custody Case**

"The story has been head-scratching right from the start -- a father losing custody, albeit temporarily, of his 7-year old son for giving him a Mike's Hard Lemonade to drink at a Tigers ball game, not realizing the lemonade was alcoholic.... [The case] led to a revision of the state's child protective custody law in 2011, and now, to a federal court decision rejecting judicial immunity for the kind of pre-signed, 'fill in the blanks' removal order that led to young Leo Fratte's detention in 'protective custody' for two nights."

[Full story](#)